



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/775,142

02/11/2004

Toshiaki Kuroda

1341.1184

2446

21171 7590 12/27/2007

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

SUITE 700

1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

REFAI, RAMSEY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3627

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/27/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/775,142	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KURODA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> RAMSEY REFAI	<b>Art Unit</b> 3627	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/11/04</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

Responsive to claims filed February 11, 2004. Claims 1-21 are presented for examination.

#### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on February 11, 2004 is being considered by the examiner.

#### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millikan (US Publication 20020170782) in view of Hayward (US Patent No. 5,752, 582).

4. As per claim 1, Millikan teaches a point of sale terminal device capable of communicating information with the automatic change dispenser capable of accepting and dispensing cash, comprising:

a deposit input unit that receives from the automatic change dispenser, deposit information that is information on an amount of cash accepted by the automatic change dispenser and a calculation unit that calculates total amount of cash by adding the deposit information

Art Unit: 3627

(paragraph [0046]; bill and coin acceptor credits bill or coin denomination to customers tender amount).

Millikan teaches rejecting bills that fail a visual check (paragraph [0046]) but fail to teach an input unit to manually input information on an amount of cash rejected by an automatic change dispenser. However, in the same field of endeavor, Hayward teaches a self-service checkout system that includes a bill dispenser that accepts or dispenses bills and a cashier positioned on the cashier side of the automated checkout station that can accept payment as opposed to using the electronic payment system (column 5, lines 38-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Millikan and Hayward because doing so would allow for a cashier to accept bills rejected by the self checkout as payment for goods.

5. As per claim 3, Millikan teaches a display unit that displays the deposit information, wherein the input unit allows the information to be input after the display unit has displayed the deposit information (paragraphs [0043, 0047], fig 7).

6. As per claim 4, Millikan teaches the display of the total credited amount (fig 7) and the pressing of a key by the customer (paragraph [0076]) but fail to teach wherein the display unit displays the deposit information when the key is operated. However, the Millikan's feature of displaying the total credited without the pressing of a key is an improvement on the claimed system which requires the pressing of a key to display information. Therefore the feature of displaying the information when a key is pressed is merely a design choice.

7. As per claim 5, Millikan teaches a totaling unit that separately calculates, for a predetermined period, totals of the amount of cash accepted from the deposit information and the amount of cash rejected from the information input (fig 7, paragraph [0046-0047]).

8. As per claims 6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-21, these claims contain similar limitations as claims 1 and 3-5 above, therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

Art Unit: 3627

9. Claims 2, 7, 12, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millikan (US Publication 20020170782) in view of Hayward (US Patent No. 5,752, 582) in further view of “ Official Notice” .

10. As per claim 2, Millikan teach the returning of bills, coins and change (**paragraph [0047]**) but fails to teach a payment instruction unit that instructs the automatic change dispenser to refund a cash corresponding to the deposit information, when there is request for cancellation of transaction after the automatic change dispenser has accepted the cash. However, “ Official Notice” is taken that the concept and advantage of this feature is well known in the art as evidenced by Marion (US Patent No. 6,073,840). Marion teaches that a customer who opts out of the transaction can request a refund from the cash acceptor which then will eject the customer payment (**column 44, line 64-column 45-29**). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include this feature because doing so would allow for the money accepted by the bill/coin acceptor to be refunded when the customer opts out of the transaction.

11. As per claims 7, 12, and 17, these claims contain similar limitations as claim 2 above, therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon, which is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure, are cited in the Notice of Reference Cited form (PTO-892).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAMSEY REFAI whose telephone number is (571)272-3975. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 p.m. .

Art Unit: 3627

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)? If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ramsey Refai  
December 18, 2007  
/R. R. /  
Examiner, Art Unit 3627

/F. Ryan Zeender/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3627